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ADVOCATE OF PEACE.

MARCH, 1852.

REACH OF PEACE PRINCIPLES AND MEASURES.

The friends of peace have received full credit for the benevolence of their motives, but not for the reach and power of their principles, the wisdom and efficacy of their plans, or the adaptation of their views to the present and prospective wants of the world. The cause of peace is greatly misconceived and undervalued on such points; and we now invite a passing glance at its claims in these respects.

Look for an example at the action of the late Peace Congress in London on any point you please. Setting aside, for the present, its general, far reaching views, and its call upon Preachers of the Gospel, Instructors of Youth, and Conductors of the Press, for co-operation in the wide spheres of influence they respectively occupy, take its resolves in favor of Stipulated Arbitration as a Substitute for War; or its proposal that the Standing Armies of Christendom be simultaneously reduced in every country to a force barely sufficient for a domestic police; or its stern, indignant protest against War-Loans, whether for the support of such military armaments in a time of peace, or for the prosecution of actual war, as alike immoral in principle, and fraught with ruinous consequences; or its strong remonstrance against the practice of one nation interfering in the internal politics of another, on the ground that every people should be left entirely free to choose their own form of government, and to manage all their affairs in whatever way they please; or its recommendation that citizens, wherever allowed to have a voice in selecting their own rulers, should be careful to vote only for those who will oppose the policy of war, and zealously sustain that of peace. Is there no reach or power in such principles, no efficacy in such measures? Let all Christendom adopt these alone in good faith; and they would put a stop at once to all actual wars, and an end in due time to her whole war-system. Nay, let any one of them be carried into full effect; and it would pave the way ere long for a most auspicious revolution in the international

policy of the world. They lay the axe at the root of the great practical evil we are combating.

The truth of this position is confirmed by the chief political movements of the day. Look at the struggles of Cobden and his associates in the Parliament of England to reduce her enormous expenses; at the vain or but partially successful attempts of Russia and Austria to negotiate loans for the support of their tottering despotisms by military force; or at the strong points which Kossuth, in his public speeches and appeals since his release from Turkey, has so adroitly put to the statesmen and patriots of both hemispheres. The principles avowed, and the measures recommended by the associated friends of peace, are already seen by sagacious men to be the very levers that must in time move the entire fabric of the world's international policy. The sweep of their legitimate application is co-extensive with the intercourse of nations; and their moral, peaceful power will be found, when rightly applied, sufficient to subvert or neutralize the present war-system as a recognized arbiter of international justice.

THE TRUE REVOLUTION.

A just cause of complaint does not make war a just means of redress.—PEACE MOTTO.

The advent of the great Hungarian to this country has opened a question of deep political interest, which, in the stir of party politics, has been hitherto much disregarded, and which is especially interesting to the friends of peace. He contemplates another revolution in Hungary, of which he will be the soul. He does not ask of the American Government, that it shall give military aid to such a revolution, but only that it shall exert its influence to prevent the Russian Emperor from again interfering to crush it; and he plainly leaves it to be understood, that, should Russia disregard a remonstrance on our part, we should enforce it by war. A large portion of our people, influenced by their own revolutionary feelings, sympathy for his oppressed countrymen, and the irresistible charm of his eloquence, are disposed to go with him the whole length of his requests; that the Government and the more conservative part of the nation do not yield to them, is merely because such a course would be in contravention of the revered advice of Washington, and the settled policy of the nation. Among the slaveholding portion of the Union, the Hungarian claim is rejected, because it is perceived, that every revolutionary triumph of liberty in the Old World reflects back a frowning reproach upon Cis-Atlantic bondage, and an encouragement to agitation which must endanger its existence.

The thorough friends of peace object to the proposals of Kossuth on higher and nobler grounds. They mourn no less than others at the view of the dark cloud of despotism that overshadows the Eastern continent; they are second to none in ardent desire for the emancipation, the freedom and intellectual elevation of all the human race; but, in obedience to that martyr.